



King County

Department of Community and Human Services

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Veteran Citizens Levy Oversight Board (VCLOB)

Meeting Summary

January 20, 2011 2-4 p.m.

**Valley View King County Library
17850 Military Rd., S. - SeaTac**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Bill Wood at 2:05 p.m. A quorum was declared.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Stan Gunno, Oren Hadaller, Doug Hoople, Vice-Chair - Francisco Ivarra, Gary Kingsbury, Cynthia Lefever, Kathy Lewis, Robert Stephens, Jr., Roger Welles, Chair- Bill Wood

Board Members Excused/Absent: None

King County Staff Present: Joel Estey, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Debora Gay, DCHS; Laird Heia, DCHS; Marcy Kubbs, DCHS; Dan Floyd, DCHS

Guests: Perry Murrell

Levy Renewal - Debora Gay

Debora Gay updated board members on the status of the Levy renewal. Stakeholder meetings are being held in the community to obtain suggestions for the next levy. Board members will be informed when additional stakeholder meetings are scheduled so they can attend.

Discussion:

Debora Gay, Manager of Veterans and Community Services, discussed the timeline for the renewal process and the importance of the boards' contribution.

- Mid-January thru mid- February - The upcoming strategy committee meetings will brief the board on the current funding environment, legislative issues and their impact on local service systems. For example, the federal health care reform legislation may have a dramatic effect on how we provide services locally when it is implemented in 2014.
- February Board Meetings – The boards will discuss what information and recommendations the board chairs should take to the upcoming Levy renewal Steering Committee meetings.

- Late February/March – The Chairs and Vice-Chairs will join the Levy Renewal Steering Committee for discussion of the important issues concerning development of the levy renewal package.
- March - A joint board meeting will be held so VCLOB and RHSLOB members can discuss their recommendations regarding renewal of the Levy.
- April – A proposal will be sent to the Executive for discussion and review
- May – Target date for the Executive proposal to be sent to the King County Council.
- Debora explained that CM's Ferguson, Dunn and von Reichbauer sponsored two ordinances, one to place the issue of levy renewal on the August ballot and the other on the November 2011 ballot. The ordinances state the size of the levy should be limited to the current amount and should continue to be a 50/50 split between veterans and human services.

Discussion:

- There was discussion about the role board members may take in the renewal of the Levy once there is a official issue on the ballot. Staff will research this issue.
- Board members requested training on the best language to use when discussing the future of the levy with others.

Committee Reports

Strategy 3

Kathy Lewis

Kathy summarized the information panelists provided at the Strategy 3 Committee meeting. She indicated the presentation was informative and recommended that board members read the meeting summary to gain a good understanding of what transpired.

Chair's Report

None.

Review of Meeting Summary

The November 18, 2010 VCLOB Meeting Summary was approved as written.

Board Leadership/Vote

Doug Hoople accepted the nomination for VCLOB chair and the board unanimously approved.

Gary Kingsbury accepted the nomination for VCLOB vice-chair and board unanimously approved.

Newly elected board chair Doug Hoople took over leadership of the meeting and thanked Bill Wood for his leadership during the past year.

King County Staff Report

- Marcy provided an update on the budget for the Family Treatment Court (FTC). Originally \$200,000 in one-time Human Services (HS) Levy funds was allocated for FTC. In the Adopted Budget process, the King County Council allocated \$225,000 in HS Levy funding for 2009 and \$269,806 for 2010 and 2011 for Family Treatment Court. In addition, \$195,933 was allocated in HS Levy 2010 funding for the Office of the Public Defender (OPD) because of its role in representing the parents involved in FTC. An evaluation of FTC indicated it is effective in helping families in dependency court, particularly families of color.

- In February, Janna Wilson of Public Health will be presenting an update to the PHISI Procurement Plan. (UPDATE: the PHISI presentation will take place during the March Levy board meetings).
- The 2011 budget ordinance included a proviso to explore whether King County should create a veterans court. DCHS is responsible for developing the response.
- Debora Gay presented: The Veterans Affairs (VA) is developing a National 5 year plan to end homelessness among veterans. King County is writing a local plan in coordination with the VA. The King County advisory committee for the plan includes representatives of the Committee to End Homelessness (CEH), Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs, and the VA, as well as representatives of the Housing and Homeless prevention systems. Debora is managing this work for King County which is recognized nationally as a leader in services to veterans. The board will be kept informed as the planning process progresses.

Old Business

- As a representative of the Strategy 3.2/3.3 Advisory Committee, Cynthia Lefever requested an update and asked when the committee would meet again. The board requested that Scott Swaim or Tom Schumacher provide an update on this activity and the military kids' curriculum. Board members stated the Military Trauma Conference provided under this activity was an excellent training on PTSD and treatment.

New Business

- The Regional Human Services Levy Oversight Board (RHSLOB) has three new members awaiting appointment by the Executive.
- The King County Veterans' Program Advisory Board has positions open that will be filled at the annual general meeting on February 28, 2011. Candidates must be official representatives from veterans' organizations in King County.
- The Strategy 1 Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 2nd from 2-4pm at the Bellevue King County Library (UPDATE: the meeting location has been changed to Bellevue City Hall due to the opportunity to film the event for Bellevue Cable TV broadcast). All board members were encouraged to attend.

Petitions/Communication (public comment)

- Perry Murrell, an officer with the African American Veterans Group of Washington State would like to write a letter of support for the accomplishments of the KC Veterans Levy.
- Dan Floyd, DCHS/Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Services, thanked the board for providing funds to the Sobering Center which made it possible for the Emergency Services Patrol (ESP) to expand its geographic range and provide services 24/7. He shared that the sobering center received 15,000 requests for ESP assistance during 2010. A total of 2,000 of these requests were from police officers. Dan emphasized the philosophy of the sobering center is that it is the starting point for recovery.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.